

Beerwah State High School

Senior School Policy



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Scope

Beerwah State High School is committed to providing a breadth of opportunities and programs for senior school students to realise their full potential as creative and intelligent young men and women. Year 11 and 12 students are considered post compulsory students, that is, they have made a conscious decision to return to school to successfully complete their Senior Studies. Successfully complete refers to:

- Achieve an OP1-15 and/or
- At least one VET Qualification and/or
- Achieve a QCE or a QCIA

Policy

The School will provide a range of high quality academic and relevant vocational studies options.

- Students will be supported by School staff to meet the requirements of their programs.
- Students will be expected to approach their studies in a diligent manner, access available support services if needed, and be accountable for their actions and academic and vocational outcomes.
- Parents/carers will be expected to support their students and work collaboratively with the School to achieve excellent outcomes.
- Each Year 10 student must participate in a senior education and training planning process. This will culminate in the completion of an individual Student Education and Training (SET) plan that outlines the intended course of senior school study. The plan will be approved by the School and endorsed by the parents/carers. The plan will be revised when necessary during Years 11 and 12.
- The School has established pre-requisites for senior subjects. These are:
 - a) published in curriculum handbooks on the School website and administered in a timely manner for the information of students and parents
 - b) applied in such a way that they do not unreasonably limit realistic future options for a student; and
 - c) applied in a way which takes account of the needs, abilities (based on evidence) and circumstances of each student.
- The School will provide a comprehensive and rigorous Queensland Core Skills Test preparation program in the Senior Years. Students, for whom this program is appropriate, will be required to participate diligently in all aspects of the program.

Expectations & Responsibilities

The School will:

- challenge students in their educational endeavours; support them in setting and attaining realistic academic goals; and energetically promote commitment to academic excellence at all times
- guide students to select and attain credentials from a variety of pathways to ensure that each student graduates with recognised qualifications as far as possible
- support all students throughout Year 11 and 12. Teaching staff will share the educational responsibility with parents and students
- assist all students in attaining their educational goals through informed decision making
- Monitor attendance and expect valid reasons are provided when absent. Absences may need to be supported by a medical certificate;

- Expect punctuality to all lessons and events. Students are expected to be at school from 8.45am – 2.45pm each day except in cases of genuine illness. As per school policy students will not be allowed to leave the school during the normal hours of operation unless written permission has been obtained from parents/carers.
- Academic reviews - The School will implement an individual tracking and management process with all students, but will especially monitor those students who achieve less than a "C" grade (or VET equivalent) in any senior subject. This will occur at either the end of each Semester or Term in conjunction with reporting periods. If a student does not achieve the agreed outcomes of the process, the School may require the student to attend lunch or after school detentions or attend tutorials on their non-timetabled study day to complete any outstanding or invalid assessment items in the attempts to secure a C grade. Students may also negotiate to amend or change subjects or courses via the subject change process and guidelines.

In response, senior students are to be:

- Self-motivated and mature in their approach to their studies;
- Responsible for adopting effective study routines and committing to work in an increasingly independent manner;
- Expected to work with pride as part of the year group to achieve their very best for both themselves and the group;
- Consciously and respectfully contribute to the School academically;
- Present in a way that demonstrates pride for themselves, their family and their school by wearing the correct uniform at all times in the way that it was designed to be worn. Our school's Parents and Citizens Association has made the decision that Beerwah SHS is a uniform school and hence all students are expected to be in full school uniform every day. We rely on our senior students to model these uniform expectations. Senior students who come to school not wearing the full school uniform will be directed to Administration after Roll Monitoring to exchange the incorrect uniform items for clean items. Students will also be issued with a uniform infringement detention as per the schools uniform policy. In some instances students may be sent home if their incorrect uniform conflicts with WH&S e.g. unsuitable footwear
- Behaviour in the classroom must not adversely impact on the learning of other students. Parent contact will be made immediately concerns are raised in this area. Students who choose to disrupt the learning of others will have their enrolment reviewed in accordance with the provisions of the Education Act
- Complete homework tasks and ensure assignments and other assessment items are completed on time and in accordance with the schools Assessment policy. End of Semester exam blocks are organised for senior students. Students must ensure they are present for all scheduled exams both during the exam block and for any exams that may be held outside the formal exam session.

Flexible Arrangements

No student in the Senior School is timetabled spare lessons. Study periods (FLX) may result when a student applies to drop a subject when they are successful in enrolling in an alternative school pathway such as acquiring a school based traineeship or apprenticeship, have enrolled in further education e.g. TAFE, SCTTTC or HeadStart or enrolled in a distance education subject and have proved their commitment to this course. Special consideration may also be sought through the Guidance Officer in relation to health issues.

Students with special education provisions, linked to our Education Services Department, are often timetabled into specific tutorial lessons and these take place within Education Services and in line with their Individual Education Programs (IEPs)

Students who meet the school requirements for a FLX line will have this clearly marked on their individual timetable. The purpose of the FLX line is to ensure that students are keeping up with school course work that may have been disrupted due to absence from school/class as a result of their alternative pathway. Failure to work diligently during these times may result in the removal of the study period (FLX) from the student's timetable and a return to a full course load and/or cancellation of the traineeship/apprenticeship.

Study Day

Year 11 students in 2017 will have Thursday timetabled as a “Study Day”. This means that regular classes have not been timetabled for this day and, unless required, students have the option not to attend school. The school reserves the right to timetable workshops and events on this Study Day as needed and students and parent/caregivers will be advised in a timely manner when this will occur.

Year 12 students in 2017 will have Wednesday timetabled as a “Study Day”. With the same guidelines outlined above.

Students who have a study period (FLX) allocated to their timetable in either period 1 or 4 on any day will be permitted to sign in late or leave early as long as a written letter of request has been submitted by a parent/caregiver. These students must sign in and out of the main office.

ILC Conditions/FLX conditions

Students enrolled in BSDE or specific TAFE courses are expected to be present in the Independent Learning Centre (ILC) for **ALL** study periods timetabled. Other students on a FLX line will be allocated to existing senior classrooms for their study lesson and they are bound by the Beerwah State High School Responsible Behaviour Plan for students and the class teacher’s behaviour management guidelines. Should students wish to negotiate working in another specialty room (art room, technology workshop etc.) written permission must be sought from the teacher willing to supervise the student in that lesson and the student is required to present the written permission to the ILC/classroom supervisor, sign into the ILC/classroom at the start of the lesson and return to the ILC/classroom at the end of the lesson. Study periods are a privilege and will be revoked if appropriate behaviour and work ethic is not displayed. The ILC expectations are the same as any classroom in the school – arrive on time, bring all resources required to complete work, NO mobile phones and do not disrupt the learning of others.

Engagement in a Program of Study

There is an expectation that all senior students, no matter what their chosen pathway, fully engage in their program of study. Non-compliance with this policy and under performance as a result of failure to engage in their studies will necessitate a review of enrolment with the family and the Principal or Principal’s delegate.

The school will not accept non-submission of any assessment tasks. Students who fail to submit assessment by the due date, and do not have a valid reason for this, are still required to submit the assessment regardless as to whether or not it will attract any marks. Students who are identified at the end of a reporting period to have outstanding assessment items will be required to attend school during after school detention or on their study day until all assessment is completed and submitted.

Compliance with this policy is essential.

Senior students who fail to meet the expectations of our school will initially be given considerable support and opportunity to change their behaviours. Students who persistently fail to meet our expectations may have their enrolment cancelled.